



## **United States Mission to the OSCE**

### **Interpretive Statement on the 2012 Scales of Contribution**

As delivered by Ambassador Ian Kelly  
to the Permanent Council, Vienna  
December 22, 2011

The United States of America wishes to make an interpretative statement under paragraph 79 (Chapter 6) of the Final Recommendations of the Helsinki Consultations.

We would like to thank the Lithuanian Chairman-in-Office, the Lithuanian and Irish Chairs of the ACMF in 2011, and the Dutch and Serbian chairpersons of the informal working group on Scales of Contributions for their efforts on the scales of contributions for the OSCE this year. We believe this rollover, based on the last revision of the scales in 2005, contributes to a stable financial footing for the organization.

Having these scales in place, together with the on time adoption of the 2012 budget, ensures that we can devote our attention from January to implementing the core work of the OSCE.

With these scales, we note that the United States continues to be the largest single contributor to the OSCE. Our willingness to make these considerable contributions attests to the significance we attach to the OSCE and its comprehensive approach to the promotion of security, in all three dimensions.

In joining consensus on the rollover of scales, the United States has made no commitment to any future increases in the U.S. contribution, however. Permanent Council Decision No. 408, adopted in 2001, established a 14 percent ceiling on the Field Operations (Vienna) scale. The logic behind that ceiling remains valid and we see no reason for changing it. We intend to participate in future discussions on that basis. Moreover, it remains our view that all the criteria applied to future discussions on scales remain of equal weight.

The United States requests that this statement be recorded in the journal of the day.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman.